

OCA 87-5509
28 October 1987

NOTE FOR: The Director

FROM: Dave Gries

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SUBJECT: Cohen Bill Picks Up Endorsements

Senator Boren, together with Senators Inouye, Rudman and Mitchell, have gone on record in support of the Cohen bill. These endorsements from the Chairmen of the Intelligence and Iran/Contra Committees make the Cohen bill the likely vehicle for post-Iran/Contra efforts to tighten oversight.

As you know, National Security Decision Directive 286 and the Cohen bill are similar in many respects. Although we would prefer not to have legislation, we can live with the portions of the Cohen bill that parallel provisions contained in the NSDD. However, there are other provisions which depart significantly from the NSDD and we would oppose these provisions.

We have a draft views letter on the Cohen bill and will soon be sending it to you for review. We are also drafting language that would strip or weaken the most objectionable portions of the bill.

As I noted on Tuesday at staff meeting, the Spector bill is much less of a threat, particularly now that Senator Boren has signed on to the Cohen bill. There is little support in the Intelligence Committee for the more onerous features of the Spector Bil.

Attachment